

THE NASIG NEWSLETTER



The Newsletter of the North American Serials Interest Group, Inc.

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER / October Ivins

CONFERENCE SIZE CONCERNS

This President's Corner addresses concerns about the size of the annual NASIG conference. As past president Cindy Hepfer notes in this issue's evaluation summary of the 1994 conference, 45% of respondents agreed with the statement "Limit registration; the conference is getting too big." Over the past several years, the size of our membership has remained fairly steady, hovering just over the 1000 mark; meanwhile the number of serialists who attend our conference has grown steadily, reaching a new high of 620 delegates at the Vancouver meeting.

After preliminary review of the evaluation forms from this year's conference, the Board began, in July, to discuss the issue of conference size. We also will devote a significant portion of our Fall meeting to this topic. In addition, we have asked the Conference Planning and Program Planning Committees to consider creative solutions to the size problem. We are aware that many of the proposed solutions may create new problems, which in turn must be addressed. So far no easy answers have been identified but we are considering a variety of ways to make the conference feel smaller, without sacrificing the quality of programming and activities that we have all come to expect. Ideas and concerns contained in this column are the result of group discussion and consensus; I have paraphrased and

included statements from Board members made in our Board list discussions, so please don't think that these terrific ideas are only mine!

1. Limit Registration. The Board is extremely reluctant to turn away members who would like to attend our annual conference. For the past several years, the Board has agreed that the conference should accommodate at least half of the membership, i.e. 500. However, the number of registrants has exceeded that. We had 550 attendees in Chicago, 580 at Brown, and 620 in Vancouver. The Board believes that limiting the size of the conference and turning away members who register later would damage the sense of ownership and investment that our membership feels in NASIG. We recognize that many delegates have to pay conference expenses out of their own pockets or advance the funds and seek reimbursement from their organizations. Thus we have not been willing to cut off registration at some arbitrary "comfort level" such as 350 or 400, when our sites can support 500-600.

2. Raise the price. Another way to limit attendance at the annual conference would be to raise the price of the conference to something higher than that needed for cost-recovery. Indeed, limiting registration but continuing to provide the same high level of programming would necessarily raise the cost-recovery price for the conference, as expenses would be shared by fewer delegates.

Another option would be to figure a genuine profit into the cost-recovery figures, perhaps charging \$400 instead of our usual \$275-\$300 for registration/room/board. Thus those who have to pay out of their own pockets may decide that attendance at NASIG is no longer an option for them and attendance would be held in check. To date, the Board has not agreed with this approach, preferring to keep NASIG as affordable as possible so that all interested serialists could afford to attend, if not every year, then at least occasionally.

3. Members only. Some ask why NASIG allows non-members to attend our conferences when we

could restrict attendance to members only. With bargain-rate membership dues of \$20 a year, requiring those who attend a conference to join NASIG would not present an outstanding obstacle. Indeed, the Board has given serious consideration to this suggestion

Even without requiring membership, we usually acquire a number of new members after they attended a conference and decided NASIG is a dynamic organization, well worth the membership fee. Local attendance of paraprofessionals and library school students is an important means of marketing our organization to new members.

Maintaining a membership of at least 1000 individuals is one of the Board's goals. With dues of only \$20, a 1000-member level guarantees an income of \$20,000. This amount is absolutely essential to support basic member services such as the Newsletter, the Directory, and some modest continuing education programs. Typically, 80% to 85% of members renew each year; individuals who drop their membership must be replaced by new members for NASIG to remain viable.

4. Select sites which can accommodate larger numbers. For reasons already outlined, we are reluctant to limit registration to less than the site reasonably can accommodate. We recognize that some problems which delegates have experienced are due more to a site's inability to handle our numbers, than simply to the total registration. For example, Oglethorpe, a small college, felt crowded with only 373 in attendance; Brown was able to accommodate 580 delegates fairly well. We are now asking site selection committees to consider locations that will accommodate a base of 500, and comfortably accommodate 600-700. This means NASIG has fewer and fewer options for sites, but we are continuing to search for them.

5. Programming and scheduling. The Program Planning Committee is brainstorming for programming and scheduling ideas that would help the conference "feel" smaller and more intimate. One option is reducing the number of

plenary sessions, which is where we notice the full registration for the conference. We could have only two plenaries, the opening and closing sessions. We might offer "tracks" or separate programming for our various constituencies throughout an entire conference. Our catalogers, for instance, have been very vocal about wanting more programs specifically geared to meet their needs. We could offer a larger selection of workshops and concurrents, thus reducing the attendance at each session. We are brainstorming for ways to schedule sessions so that everyone is not adjourning for lunch and breaks at the same time.

But each of these ideas creates problems of its own. If we reduce the number of plenary sessions, we miss out on a common NASIG experience. If we offer tracks, our opportunities to mingle and "cross-fertilize" are reduced. If we add additional workshops or concurrent sessions, delegates will have to choose among an even greater number of attractive topics and excellent speakers than is currently the case. Offering more sessions may mean more speakers, and more speakers means higher programming costs and higher conference fees. Finally, we would need to be certain the site can accommodate more simultaneous sessions within easy walking distance.

6. Meals and social events. As already indicated above, we are brainstorming for options regarding meals. This applies especially to lunches when we usually have a fairly tight timeframe for everyone, including our day registrants, to eat and move on to afternoon meetings. Thus the Program Planning Committee, the Conference Planning Committee and the Board are considering planning fewer meals where all are in the same place at the same time. We are asking if there is a way to stagger lunch and break times, and if we should offer box lunches as an alternative to a cafeteria site. We are looking at the desirability -- and affordability -- of offering breaks at multiple locations. Conference Planning Committee is also looking carefully at meal/break set-ups so that a large number of people can be served in the least amount of time, for example by having a number of service lines operating at a reception.

In regard to social events, we are considering a variety of options. For example, many NASIG delegates traditionally love to have a dance and bar each night. But others enjoy a quieter option, with board games, cards, classical music and an opportunity to chat with friends. We have tried open evenings, when delegates were free to explore the city/town independently. Some liked that option; others sorely missed planned, on-campus activities. Another approach might be planning multiple social events to split up the crowd, such as pre- or post-dinner activities in each dorm. Of course, this would mean much more work for the Conference Planning Committee and may also contribute to increasing expenses.

7. Housing alternatives. Most Board members are proponents of on-campus housing, since much of the informal networking goes on in the lines for the elevator, in shared bathroom facilities, over breakfast, etc. So we hesitate to encourage people to stay off-campus, but some attendees might be happier and more comfortable staying at a nearby hotel. We can arrange a special conference rate with one or two places and include this information in the registration form. Until now, we have usually offered more information on outside accommodations only on request. We are also reluctant to get ourselves into the transportation business by running vans to and from these local hotels. Adequate, safe public transportation to and from local hotels, and whether local hotels are available, would be new items to consider in site selection each year. Also, if substantial numbers of delegates elect to stay off-campus we risk not meeting our minimum room guarantee, thus jeopardizing our cost-recovery fees and possibly incurring a monetary loss on the conference.

Planning for the 1995 Duke Conference is already well underway. Our primary goal is to produce a creative, dynamic conference for as many delegates as can be reasonably accommodated. Certainly we've been doing something right in the past if 600 interested serialists have registered for the NASIG conference. Despite the criticism we have received the past couple of years regarding increasing conference size and the resultant loss

of intimacy, the Vancouver Conference received a 4.3 overall rating. Every year we consider evaluation responses carefully and try to make as many improvements as possible. The Board finds the opportunity to explore ideas to make the conference feel smaller a very valuable exercise. We will not be able to incorporate all of the ideas discussed in this column; in fact, if we did, I think we would be giving up much of what makes NASIG conferences unique. But some of these ideas will be adopted for the Duke Conference after the Board has had an opportunity to consider the draft program schedules and conference plans. More articles about the Duke Conference will appear in the February newsletter. They will highlight changes we will try this year in response to your concerns about conference size.

We are committed to taking your evaluations seriously. We always do our best to provide challenging programming, opportunities for professional growth and development, and the chance to network, make new friends and contacts, and to renew existing relationships in a pleasant and inexpensive venue.

Please get in touch with me or with any Board member with your reactions to the ideas outlined here, or to offer other suggestions. I would be delighted to hear from you.

9th ANNUAL NASIG CONFERENCE: CONFERENCE EVALUATION REPORT / Cindy Hepfer

Every year NASIG includes a long and detailed evaluation form in its annual conference packet. This year, the return rate was lower than our norm, perhaps because it was difficult to compete with the need to catch an airplane to the East Coast or the chance to go sightseeing in magnificent Vancouver. We received only 222 questionnaires back from over 600 registrants. The questionnaires were tabulated for NASIG by Patricia Brennan at ARL, and the Board expresses its appreciation and gratitude to Patricia for handling this sizeable task so quickly.

Considered as a whole, on a scale of 1 to 5 the 9th Annual NASIG Conference earned an excep-

tional rating of 4.3. By way of comparison, the two previous conferences, both of which were regarded as extremely successful, earned overall ratings of 4.4 (Brown University) and 4.1 (University of Illinois at Chicago).

Ratings of the intellectual content of the conference seemed to indicate a preference for workshop content and/or speakers. The plenary and concurrent speakers earned wondrously mixed reviews: it was not unusual for a single speaker to earn an almost equal number of 5s and 4s, and nearly as many 2s or 1s! The highest rated plenary/breakout speaker was Judy Clarke, who earned a conference high of 4.6 out of 5. Other plenary/concurrent speakers rated between 4 and 5 were Linda Moore, Susan Lewis and Johann Van Reenen. The workshops fared much better with eight earning average scores of 4.0 or higher: "Negotiating Contracts for Electronic Resources," "Keep Them Doggies Rollin'," "Ethics in Action," "Methods for Collecting Electronic Serials," "Is it Tweaking or Catalog Enrichment?," "Workshop Ergonomics and Computer Calisthenics," "Problem Solving Workshop," and "Job Hunter's Workshop."

Our Vancouver location was a clear winner at 4.6 out of 5. Overall feedback on housing ranged from a low of 3.5 for single rooms with shared washrooms to a high of 4.2 for suites. The Salmon Barbecue was our most successful meal, while the Asian Buffet was the least successful.

For purposes of planning future NASIG conferences, the Program Planning Committee learned that respondents liked all of the session formats (workshops, plenary sessions, concurrent sessions and preconferences), and between 83.6% and 92% of attendees considered the length of each type of session "just right." In regard to future conference sites, mountain areas rated highest followed by desert states, the Midwest, and New England. Overwhelmingly, people want NASIG to be held at "a beautiful, scenic spot."

Over 45% of those responding indicated NASIG should limit registration in the future. This is an extremely difficult issue that has plagued the Board and conference planners each of the last 3

or 4 years; it is also the subject of this issue's "President's Corner."

The preconference "Internet Tools and Resources: An Electronic Buffet" fared very well. 93.1% of the respondents said that they would consider attending future NASIG preconferences and 98.8% agreed that a cost-recovery fee is acceptable. The preconference speakers who earned ratings between 4 and 5 were Maggie Rioux, Ann Okerson and David Rodgers, and Marilyn Geller.

Conference demographics have changed little over the years. 64.1% of respondents came from university libraries, 8.2% from college libraries, and 6.9% from medical libraries. 2.3% indicated that they were publishers, while only 1.4% of those who handed in evaluation forms said they were subscription agents. 42.7% indicated they had over 10 years of serials-related experience, while some 16.8% had 3 or fewer years. 47.7% described themselves as "serials librarian," 28% as "catalog librarian," 20.5% as "collection development librarian," 19.7% as working in processing or binding, 18.2% as "acquisitions librarian," 16.7% as "reference librarian," and 12.1% as working in automation or systems. Over 54% noted that they regularly attend ALA, and 41.5% attend regional or state library association meetings. 9.7% indicated NASIG was the only meeting they regularly attend.

Write-in comments were generally very favorable, including:

- "Very well organized conference"
- "Very enjoyable conference - I am thinking of joining NASIG as a result"
- "One of the better NASIG conferences yet"
- "Great cinnamon rolls"
- "Kat did a magnificent job on this conference"
- "Salmon BBQ wonderful"
- "The positive train of thought was wonderful"
- "It was very nice to have the museum stay open just for us -- Thank you!"
- "Really enjoyed the speakers on the human aspects of libraries facing change"

"Excellent, well run, beautiful setting"
"I especially love the informal spirit of NASIG"

"Local planning was excellent, nice accommodations and good price"

"Great risk taking having Judy Clarke and Linda Moore -- different perspectives were refreshing"

"The Law Courts were a great setting for a formal event"

A number of critical remarks were also received. The Board, the Conference Planning Committee, and the Program Planning Committee will study these comments carefully to see what we can reasonably do to improve future conferences.

Once again, to the 9th Annual NASIG Conference Program Planning and Conference Planning Committees, "A job well done!"

10TH ANNUAL NASIG CONFERENCE JUNE 1-4, 1995 AT DUKE UNIVERSITY, DURHAM, NC / Marcia Tuttle

The Conference Planning Committee for the 10th Anniversary Conference is hard at work coordinating arrangements for North Carolina's first NASIG conference. Early June weather should be relatively mild, although there is always the chance of spring showers.

Your not-unbiased reporter is convinced that the Durham campus, surrounding the spectacular Duke Chapel, is one of the most beautiful in America. The compact West Campus features Gothic (but air-conditioned!) architecture, large green quads, and mature trees. The Research Triangle area (Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill) is located midway between North Carolina's unspoiled beaches and the Blue Ridge mountains, each 3-4 hours away, so conference-goers may want to plan to spend extra time in the state before or after the conference.

The Raleigh-Durham International Airport (RDU) is an American Airlines hub (with a direct flight from London!) and is also served by US Air, Delta, Northwest, and United airlines. The Duke campus is about half an hour from the airport. Continental Airlines flies into the Greensboro (Triad) airport,

which is about an hour west of Duke (own transportation required). Fares into Greensboro often are lower than those into RDU. Durham is served by two Interstate highways, 40 and 85, making driving an attractive option. There will be plenty of free parking near the dorms.

Members of the Conference Planning Committee are: Barbara Best-Nichols (Reichhold Chemicals), Ashley Carrigan (University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill (UNC-CH) School of Information and Library Science), Eleanor Cook (Appalachian State University), Christie Degener (UNC-CH Health Sciences Library), Marla Edelman (University of North Carolina-Greensboro), Nancy Gibbs (North Carolina State University), Carson Holloway (EBSCO), Michael Markwith (Faxon), Doug Stewart (UNC-CH), Elaine Teague (Burroughs Wellcome), Marcia Tuttle, Chair (UNC-CH), Jeri Van Goethem (Duke University), and Judy Woodburn (Duke University Medical Library).

The next issues of the NASIG Newsletter will carry more details about the conference, including plans for a pig pickin', a fun run through Duke Forest, and, we hope (cross your fingers, sports fans), a night at the ballpark with everybody's favorite minor league team, the Durham Bulls. We will send your registration booklets to you as soon as we can. Until then, for further information contact:

Marcia Tuttle
Serials Department
CB #3938 Davis Library
University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, NC 27514-8890 USA
Phone: (919) 962-1067
Fax: (919) 962-4450
Internet: tuttle@gibbs.oit.unc.edu

CALLING ALL NASIG LIFERS! / Susan Davis, NASIG Secretary

"NASIG Lifers" are continuous members since 1986, our first full year of existence. 1995 will be NASIG's tenth year and include our tenth annual conference. NASIG would like to recognize our long-time members, so we are asking your cooperation in identifying yourselves. If you

believe you may be a continuous member since 1986, please contact:

Susan Davis
Phone: (716) 645-2784
Fax: (716) 645-5955
E-mail: unisdb@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu

If you have previously responded via e-mail, there is no need to respond again.

So far 22 members have been identified who have attended all nine conferences. Any of those individuals who register for the 1995 conference will be recognized at the Tenth Annual Conference at Duke University.

NASIG PICTURES NEEDED! / Susan Davis, NASIG Secretary

To all those who have attended past conferences:

Check through your attics, old photo albums, dusty files -- NASIG is planning a display of scenes from conferences past at our 10th Anniversary Conference next June. We are in need of candid photos (or even posed ones!), slides, movies -- whatever you've got! And you can even donate your favorite poses to our Archives for posterity! If necessary NASIG may be able to arrange reprints. We really want to make the upcoming 10th annual conference a memorable one. What could be more memorable than memorabilia from the first nine conferences?!

PLEASE HELP. Contact Elaine Rast, NASIG Archivist, for more information:

Phone: (815) 753-9864
Fax: (815) 753-2003
Bitnet: c60ekr1@niu

PROCEEDING(S) AHEAD! / Connie Foster, NASIG Executive Board Liaison

The announcement in the June Newsletter and the introduction of Beth Holley and Mary Ann Sheble at the Vancouver conference only hinted at the drive behind the 1994 co-editors of the NASIG Proceedings. With recent word from Bill Cohen

(Haworth) that the Proceedings are "on target," Beth and Mary Ann are not quite ready to relax. For them, seasonal changes carry added meaning this year. Spring meant selecting records for workshops, alerting speakers to the manuscript guidelines and taking care of preliminary matter that were not dependent on conference papers.

During the conference and immediately afterwards, Beth and Mary Ann edited papers, verified copyright forms, and ensured that the completed files were ready by September 1. This Fall, while waiting for galley proofs, they will revise the proceedings manual, work towards the electronic version and prepare a budget and later write an annual report.

Beth earned her library science degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In 1987 she became Head of Serials Acquisitions and Cataloging at the University of Alabama. Now she is Head of Acquisitions. She joined NASIG in 1988 and also serves as a mid-region membership coordinator. Many NASIG members still rely on her "Directory of Back Issue Dealers," a NASIG first. Beth also served on the editorial board of Rotunda, her library's in-house newsletter. Until September 15, Mary Ann had weekly "NASIG" meetings at Alabama with Beth. Then she moved to Detroit where she is now Associate Director for Technical Services and Systems at Mercy Library, University of Detroit. For the past four years she was Head of Serials Cataloging at the University of Alabama. She has published articles in library, history, and social science journals as well as chapters in books. An active NASIG member for 4 1/2 years, Mary Ann also is a member of the LAMA Statistics Section.

To put the finishing touches on the proceedings, we also welcome Bob Persing as indexer for the 1994 edition. Bob is assistant head of serials at the University of Pennsylvania.

Beth, Mary Ann, and Bob represent NASIG's volunteer spirit and the dedication that keeps NASIG a solid organization. Mary Ann recalls Marjorie Bloss' comment at the recent NASIG conference: "If you can work with serials, you can do anything." These words carried the co-editors through the summer and can give all of us renewed stick-to-it-iveness.

PROCEEDINGS AVAILABLE

NASIG CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS AVAILABLE / Connie Foster, NASIG Executive Board Liaison

Proceedings from each NASIG conference are published as an issue of The Serials Librarian. Haworth Press later re-publishes each of those issues separately as a bound monograph and offers them to NASIG members at a 50% discount on the advertised prices. This offer applies to the forthcoming 1994 proceedings as well as all older ones still available. Prices are given in U.S. dollars.

Serial Connections: People, Information, and Communication. Inaugural conference. ISBN 086656-654-6, \$32.95
(The Serials Librarian, v.11, nos. 3/4)

The Serials Information Chain: Discussion, Debate, and Dialog. Second conference. ISBN 0-86656-744-5, \$32.95
(The Serials Librarian, v.13, nos.2/3)

Serials Information From Publisher to User: Practice, Programs, and Progress. Third conference. ISBN 0-86656-894-8, \$32.95
(The Serials Librarian, v.15, nos.3/4)

The Serials Partnership: Teamwork, Technology, and Trend. Fourth conference. ISBN 0-86656-991-X, \$32.95
(The Serials Librarian, v.17, nos.3/4)

The Future of Serials. Fifth conference. ISBN 1-56024-081-4, \$32.95
(The Serials Librarian, v.19, nos.3/4)

A Changing World. Sixth conference. ISBN 1-56024-263-9, \$32.95
(The Serials Librarian, v.21, nos.2/3)

If We Build It. Seventh conference. ISBN 1-56024-450-X, \$24.95
(The Serials Librarian, v.23, nos.3/4)

New Scholarship. New Serials. Eighth conference and most recent monographic release. ISBN 1-56024-685-5, \$24.95
(The Serials Librarian, v.24, nos.3/4)

Remember! NASIG members get 1/2 off the prices listed above (monographs only).

NASIG AWARDS AVAILABLE

NASIG Student Grant Awards / Gail Julian,
Chair, NASIG Student Grant Award Committee

NASIG is currently seeking student candidates for grants which fund attendance at its Tenth Annual Conference. The conference will take place June 1-4, 1995, at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. Through the granting of these awards, NASIG encourages participation by students who are interested in pursuing aspects of serials work upon completion of their professional degrees.

SCOPE OF AWARD: Recipients are expected to attend the entire conference and submit a brief written report to NASIG. Expenses for travel, registration, meals, and lodging will be paid by NASIG. Each recipient will also receive a year's membership in NASIG.

ELIGIBILITY: Eligible students are those currently enrolled at the graduate level in any ALA accredited library school, who do not already have an ALA accredited degree, and who have expressed interest in aspects of serials work. Applicants must be full- or part-time students at the time of application. In order to accept an award, a recipient may not be employed in a position requiring an ALA accredited degree, nor on leave from such a position, at the time of acceptance of the grant. Equal consideration will be given to all qualified applicants, with preference given to those graduating the year of the conference. Students do not have to be NASIG members to apply.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: February 15, 1995. Fax submissions are acceptable. Applications received after this date will not be considered.

AWARD NOTIFICATION: Award recipients will be notified by April 1, 1995. A maximum of six grants may be awarded for 1995.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: Application forms for the NASIG Student Grant will be available after

December 1, 1994, in ALA accredited library schools, through the NASIG gopher, and from Gail Julian, Chair of the NASIG Student Grant Committee. Completed applications should be sent to:

Gail Julian
Serial Acquisitions Librarian
University of South Carolina
Thomas Cooper Library
Columbia, SC 29208
Phone: (803) 777-3850
Fax: (803) 777-4661
E-mail: gail@tcl.sc.edu

NASIG Horizon Award / Sylvia Martin,
Chair, NASIG Horizon Award Committee

NASIG is pleased to announce a new award, the NASIG Horizon Award, in recognition of its tenth annual conference. The purpose of this award is to welcome an aspiring new serialist to the serials profession by introducing the recipient to NASIG, to further enhance the recipient's knowledge of and interest in serials, and to provide an opportunity for interaction with other members of the serials chain.

DESCRIPTION OF AWARD: The NASIG Horizon Award provides the recipient an opportunity for professional development by funding attendance at NASIG's tenth annual conference to be held June 1-4, 1995 at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. NASIG will assume all conference fees and travel costs. The recipient will receive a free year's membership in NASIG, will be invited to serve on a committee for that year, and will receive a framed certificate in commemoration of the event.

ELIGIBILITY: Applicants should currently be in a position of a professional nature with primary responsibilities for some aspect of serials, e.g. head of serials, serials acquisitions, serials vendor, or serials publisher. Applicants must have served in this position no more than three years, do not have to be a member of NASIG, and

should not have attended any previous NASIG conferences. Preference will be given to applicants with previous serials experience, to those employed by a North American organization or institution, and to those whose career goals include long range plans for professional growth and development in serials.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: January 15, 1995. Applications postmarked after this date will not be considered.

AWARD NOTIFICATION: The award recipient will be notified by February 17, 1995.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: Application forms for the NASIG Horizon Award will be available after November 15, 1994 from:

Sylvia Martin, Chair, NASIG Horizon Award
Vanderbilt University Library
110 - 21st Ave. South
Suite 700
Nashville, TN 37203-2408
Phone: (615) 322-3478
Fax: (615) 343-8834
E-mail: martin@library.vanderbilt.edu.

Applications must be accompanied by a letter of reference from a current supervisor. Completed applications should be returned to Sylvia Martin.

NASIG FOUNDERS RESEARCH GRANT /
Charles May, Chair, NASIG Founders Research Grant Committee

To celebrate its 10th Annual Conference, the North American Serials Interest Group announces the NASIG Founders Research Grant honoring the visionaries who established NASIG as an independent organization to provide a free exchange of information among the various participants of the serials information chain.

The purpose of the grant is to fund research on any aspect of the serials information chain including publishing, pricing, sales, acquisition, cataloging, automation, distribution, access, and use of serials.

DESCRIPTION OF AWARD: The NASIG Founders Research Grant awards \$1000 toward research in serials to individuals or groups. In addition NASIG will assume all conference fees and reasonable travel costs to the conference the year after the award is given. If a group application is chosen, the grant monies will be divided equally among the members of the group, and the conference and travel fees will be given to the principal investigator or other designee of the group. A check for half of the grant will be given to the recipient(s) at the June 1995 conference. At the June 1996 conference, the applicant (or designated group representative) will present a paper, workshop or discussion group covering the grant-funded research. Also at the June 1996 conference, the remaining portion of the award will be given to the winner(s).

ELIGIBILITY: The award is available to all persons interested in the serials information chain, including librarians, publishers, vendors, students, academics, or groups composed of the above. The individual or principal researcher designated by a group must be a NASIG member.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Applications must be received by April 15, 1995. The award will be announced at the NASIG Annual Conference, Duke University, June 1-4, 1995.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: Application forms for the NASIG Founders Research Grant are available after November 20, 1994 from:

Charles May
Chair, NASIG Founders Research Grant
New Hanover County Library
201 Chestnut Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
Phone: (910) 341-4036
E-mail: nhcl_cgm@vxc.ocis.uncwil.edu.

Applications must be accompanied by no more than three typewritten pages describing the research and hypotheses, the methodology to be used, and potential sources to be consulted.

NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL BOARD CHANGES / Maggie Horn

With this issue of the Newsletter, there are changes in the editorial board.

Ellen Finnie Duranceau has resigned as Editor-in-Chief because of important new responsibilities outside of NASIG. Ellen had begun a second two year term in June 1994 and had done a marvelous job as Editor-in-Chief, greatly expanding newsletter coverage. Many thanks to Ellen for her service and her continuing willingness to share her experience and wisdom with the new Editor-in-Chief.

Maggie Horn, Distribution Editor for the past two years and Production Editor for the September issue, has been appointed Editor-in-Chief for the remainder of Ellen's term, which expires in June 1996. In addition to her experience on the editorial board, Maggie has served as the editor of the Brown University Library newsletter, Bibliofile, and the Rhode Island JMRT newsletter.

Steve Savage joins the editorial board as the Production Editor. Steve is currently Head, Serials Dept., at the University of Kentucky Libraries in Lexington. He brings with him experience working on a newsletter for a local service organization and excellent network skills. He's been a member of the NASIG Research Award Committee and has given presentations at the 1991 and 1993 NASIG conferences.

The complete editorial board, beginning with this issue, is:

Maggie (aka Marguerite) Horn, Editor-in-Chief
Carol MacAdam, Columns Editor
Vikki Medaglia, Distribution Editor
Steve Savage, Production Editor

CORRECTIONS TO THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE

"Title Changes" in the September issue included two errors: Cheryl Scheer's correct e-mail address is cscheer@sunflowr.usd.edu, not "chcheer" and, Linda Golian's last name was incorrectly spelled as "Goldian."

NEW MEMBERS / Carol MacAdam

November 1, 1994

Welcome to the following NASIG members who have joined since the last issue of the Newsletter:

Allerton, Elizabeth
Serials Cataloger
University of Florida
Phone: (904) 392-0351
Bitnet: beth@nervm.bitnet

Atias, Linda J.
Library Specialist
University of New Mexico
Phone: (505) 277-4963
Internet: latias@carina.unm.edu

Branham, Janie
Serials Librarian
Southeastern Louisiana University
Phone: (504) 549-2186
Internet: flib1198@selu.edu

Broussard, Camille
Head of Reference Services
New York Law School Library
Phone: (212) 431-2354

Collver, Mitsuko
Head, Serials and Acquisitions Department
State University of New York
Stonybrook, NY
Phone: (516) 632-7140

Dewez, Andree M.
Head, Serials Recording
University of Chicago
Phone: (312) 702-8770

Drake, Paul B.
Serials Librarian
Roger Williams University
Phone: (401) 254-3374
Internet: pdrake@acc.rwu.edu

Dyer, Sandra
Serials/Government Documents Librarian
University of North Carolina Law Library
Phone: (919) 962-1207
Internet: sandra_dyer@unc.edu

Gwiazdowski, Theresa
Serials Manager
California Pacific Medical Center
Health Sciences Library
Phone: (415) 923-3240
Internet: gwiazda@class.org

Hagan, Timothy
La Grange, IL
Phone: (708) 579-0424

Heinemann, Peg
Serials Specialist
University of New Mexico
Phone: (505) 277-4962
Internet: pheine@hal.unm.edu

Hirons, Jean L.
Acting CONSER Coordinator
Serial Record Division
Library of Congress
Phone: (202) 707-5947
Internet: hirons@mail.loc.gov

Holeton, Anna
Reference and Serials Librarian
BCIT Library
Burnaby, BC
Phone: (604) 451-6825
Internet: hlea1468@bcit.bc.ca

Holtman, Prudence
Acquisitions Manager
College of Wooster
Phone: (216) 263-2487
Internet: pholtman@acs.wooster.edu

Katz, Stephen J
Serials Librarian
Colorado School of Mines
Phone: (303) 273-3024
Internet: skatz@nitro.mines.colorado.edu

Larkin, Elizabeth
Elmhurst, IL
Phone: (708) 833-5740

Lopatin, Laurie
Catalog Librarian
Hofstra University
Phone: (516) 463-6425
Internet: libctljl@vaxa.hofstra.edu

Marsnik, Adam
Library Assistant III
Legislative Reference Library
Phone: (612) 296-0586
Internet: amarsnik@library.leg.state.mn.us

Middeldorp, Ineke
Sales Manager, North America
Martinus Nijhoff International
Phone: (800) 346-3662
Internet: 75027.500@compuserve.com

O'Neill, Ann L.
Assistant Professor
University of South Carolina
Phone: (803) 777-3858
Internet: aoneill@univscvm.csd.scaroline.edu

Pintozzi, Chestalene
Science-Engineering Team Librarian
University of Arizona
Phone: (602) 621-6392
Internet: pintozzi@ccit.arizona.edu

Roth, Alison C.
Sales Manager
Faxon
Phone: (800) 999-3594
Internet: roth@faxon.com

Somers, Michael A.
Assistant Head, Acquisitions/Serials
Services Dept.
Louisiana State University
Phone: (504) 388-6608
Bitnet: notmas@lsuvm.bitnet

Walker, Colleen
MLS Student
Rosary College
Phone: (219) 865-8137

Weible, Arlene
Periodicals & Government Documents Librarian
Willamette University
Phone: (503) 370-6141
Internet: aweible@willamette.edu

TITLE CHANGES / Carol MacAdam

[Note: Please report promotions, awards, new degrees, new positions and other significant professional milestones. You may submit items about yourself or other members to Carol MacAdam. Contributions on behalf of fellow members will be cleared with the person mentioned in the news item before they are printed. Please include your e-mail address or phone number.]

Mary Devlin began a new job as Serials Specialist for Blackwell's Periodicals on June 1, 1994. She will cover the western part of the United States for Blackwell's. Mary started her career with the Richard Abel Company in 1969 and spent four years in their London office. She has also worked as an academic librarian and a corporate librarian. Prior to joining Blackwell's, Mary was Regional Manager of the Pacific Northwest Region for The Faxon Company. Mary is a contra-dance caller and calls dances all around the country. She is eager to help arrange a contra-dance for the NASIG 10 Conference in Durham next June. Anyone interested in contra-dance is welcome to contact Mary. Her new phone number is (503) 236-9606 and new email address is devlin@bnaamf.blackwell.com. Mary still lives and works in Portland, Oregon.

Mary Ann Sheble was Supervisor of Serials Cataloging in the Catalog Department of the University of Alabama Libraries. She recently began a new job as Associate Director for Technical Services and Systems in the Library of the University of Detroit Mercy. Mary's new address is: University of Detroit Mercy Libraries, 4001 W. McNichols Road, P.O. Box, 19900 Detroit, MI 48219-0900. Her new telephone number is (313) 993-1074 and her new e-mail address is msheble@waynest1. Mary Ann was co-editor, with Beth Holley, of the NASIG 1994 Proceedings, and this duo have agreed to utilize their experience together to edit the NASIG 1995 Proceedings.

Deborah Leggett-Sibley is now Acquisitions and Collection Control Librarian at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center Library in Worcester, MA. Debbie says her new title means "Head of Technical Services." She is glad to be back in an academic health sciences library. The job Debbie left was Head of Resource Management at Baystate Medical Center Library in Springfield, MA, the teaching hospital associated with Tufts University. Debbie's new phone number is (508) 856-2435, and her new e-mail address is dsibley@library.ummed.edu.

Donald Coney, Jr. is a new NASIG member, having joined during the summer of 1994. In the meantime, Don has also changed jobs. He was working in serials acquisitions at the State University of New York at Stonybrook, contributing to their project to convert serials from kardex to Notis. In August 1994 he left Stonybrook to join the law firm of Kirkland and Ellis in their Washington, DC office. At Kirkland and Ellis, Don is Technical Services Librarian, with responsibilities including serials

acquisitions and cataloging. His phone number is (202) 879-5177.

Brad Carrington, formerly Serials Cataloger in the Serials Department at the University of Kentucky Libraries, is now the Serials Services Librarian in the same department. His new duties include overseeing the Periodicals Public Service Unit and the Central Serials Record. A member of NASIG since 1988, Brad attended the 1988, 1989 and 1991 NASIG conferences and gave presentations at each. He can be reached at

Serials Dept.
University of Kentucky Libraries
Lexington, KY 40506-0039
Phone: (606) 257-8393
Fax: (606) 257-8379
E-mail: bcarring@ukcc.uky.edu.

Sandra Harris's new title as Processing Services Librarian is a result of the reorganization and consolidation of some technical services departments at Linda Hall Library in July 1994. Sandra began working at Linda Hall in September 1993 as Serials Librarian, having come from Atlanta Fulton Public Library in Georgia. With the new organization, the Serials unit was absorbed into the Order/Cataloging, Receiving and Processing Departments of the Technical and Automated Services Division. As Processing Services Librarian, Sandra has new responsibilities which include binding, preservation, government documents, serials routing and shelving, and overseeing the sharing of materials with the Library's extensive list of exchange partners. She is glad for the broader experience of what it takes to maintain the whole collection in the library. Sandra's new telephone number is (816) 926-8706 and her e-mail

address is harriss@lhl.lib.mo.us. Sandra lives in Kansas City, Kansas, and crosses to Kansas City, Missouri, for work.

Linda Forster was Catalog Assistant at Bucknell University Library. Her new title is Supervisor of the Serials Processing Department. While Linda still does all the cataloging of periodicals, she also has new responsibilities for the technical processing of serials: checking-in and claiming, union listing. Much of her new responsibility came to her in a departmental reorganization. Linda enjoys the challenge of dealing with more aspects of serials than only cataloging. Her e-mail address and phone number remain the same: lforster@bucknell.edu, (717) 524-3238.

Julie Nachman reports that her title has changed from Assistant Serials Librarian to Assistant Acquisitions Librarian, as a result of reorganization at Georgetown. In July 1994 the Georgetown University Library's Collection Management and Organization Division was reorganized into Acquisitions, Cataloging, Preservation, and Gifts Departments. The ordering, receiving, and business functions of the old Serials Department were transferred to a now-expanded Acquisitions Department, where Julie's responsibilities lie. Julie is a new Nasig member. Her address is:

Georgetown University Library
Acquisitions Department
3700 O St. NW
Washington, DC 20057-1006
Phone : (202) 687-7503
Fax (202) 687-1215
E-mail: jnachman@guvax.acc.georgetown.edu

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER

**AVOID DROPPING FROM THE MEMBERSHIP
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**RENEW YOUR 1995 MEMBERSHIP BEFORE
DECEMBER 31!!**

If you've lost your membership renewal form,
there's a duplicate in this issue. There is also a
copy in the NASIG gopher.

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gopher e-math.ams.org 6050

To access the gopher using telnet conventions:
telnet e-math.ams.org
login: nasig-pr
password: NasigPub <won't appear on your
screen>
select VT100

To access the file using ftp conventions:
ftp e-math.ams.org
login: nasig-pr
password: NasigPub <won't appear on
your screen>
cd nasig.gopher
get renewal.txt
quit

Remember that the login and password for telnet
and ftp are case sensitive! If you have problems
retrieving this file please contact:

Marilyn Geller
Chair, NASIG Electronic Communications
Committee
E-mail: mgeller@readmore.com

NASIG REGIONAL COUNCILS AND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 1993-1994 / Leslie C. Knapp

Once again, I'm pleased to report that due to
continuing hard work of regional council coord-
inators and state/provincial representatives,
NASIG is fast becoming a household word. At last
count, we had more than one thousand members!

This year regional coordinators and state/
provincial representatives attended dozens of
local and regional meetings of other professional
organizations. They described the benefits of
joining NASIG to potential new members and
distributed scores of membership brochures.

Thanks to Teresa Malinowski and Cindy Hepfer,
the committee's charge was written and published
in the membership directory.

With the assistance of Ellen Duranceau, we
published the list of names and addresses of all
regional council coordinators and state/provincial
representatives in the NASIG Newsletter.

Because the primary response to having our own
electronic discussion list was "not another one!,"
we chose not to create one this year.

As in previous years, we worked informally with
the NASIG Continuing Education Committee.
Depending on the findings of the new task force on
continuing education, our committee anticipates
working more closely with that group in the
future.

We also examined how long various regional
coordinators had been serving on the committee
and clarified terms of office, procedures for
succession, and degree of involvement by the
NASIG president.

Finally, I am delighted to announce that Joyce
Tenney from the University of Maryland has been
appointed chair and that Julia Gammon replaces
Cindy Hepfer as executive board liaison.

**REPORT FOLLOWING THE CSISAC
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING /
Lucy Bottomley, NASIG Liaison to CSISAC**

Established in 1991, the Canadian Serials Industry Systems Advisory Committee (CSISAC) is a voluntary, not-for-profit organization that promotes communication throughout the serials information chain. As with SISAC, its sister organization in the U.S., CSISAC's membership encompasses libraries, publishers, system vendors, subscription agents and other interested parties, working together to develop, adopt and promote standards for electronic interchange of serials information. CSISAC coordinates its efforts with similar organizations to ensure international standards include Canadian requirements.

As CSISAC begins its fourth year, its outgoing president, Robert Renaud, noted that "perhaps CSISAC's single most significant accomplishment of the last year was simple survival. Voluntary organizations, such as CSISAC, frequently spring up with an initial burst of enthusiasm, only to wither away over time ... It is a tribute to the dedication of CSISAC's members, as well as to their employers, that the organization survived and indeed thrived."

CSISAC's Annual General Meeting was held September 22, 1994 in Toronto, Ontario. Some of the 1993-1994 activities in review are highlighted below.

STANDARDS

The CSISAC X12 Subcommittee worked jointly with the Canadian Book Industry Systems Advisory Committee (CBISAC) X12 Subcommittee to define transaction sets supporting electronic data interchange and to resolve inconsistencies between book and serials definitions within EDI. The need to align message formats for books and serials was identified early in 1992. The concept culminated in 1994 in the production of an aligned format for the purchase order, the X12 standard. This format is currently being tested both in the United States and in Canada under the auspices of SISAC's Implementation Task Force.

Mappings of the serials and book invoices were compared. Results will be available to interested parties in BISAC and SISAC.

EDUCATION AND PROMOTION

On May 31, 1994, CSISAC held its first Spring Forum, with the theme "If EDI Is So Wonderful, Why Aren't We Doing Anything With It?" The Forum brought together speakers from across the serials industry to address this question and identify some solutions. It provided brief, focused presentations, as well as an opportunity for a panel discussion and audience participation. The underlying conclusions were that libraries need to press their software vendors to provide EDI functionality and that availability of stabilized subsets of EDI standards is crucial to the implementation process.

PUBLICATIONS

The CSISAC News (ISSN 1188-4916) was again published five times during the year, effectively communicating news of subcommittee work and the broader developments in the industry to CSISAC members. The third Annual Report, 1993-1994 (ISSN 1192-4896), details the activities of the year.

The X12 Subcommittee issued a document titled "Proposed EDI Implementation Steps for Libraries" that provides a high-level overview of the process of implementing EDI in libraries. This document is available from CSISAC at a cost of \$3.00 CAD.

While CSISAC experienced success in 1993-1994, it was also left with some unresolved issues -- challenges for the coming year. One of these challenges is to break the current membership boundaries and extend them to national levels. CSISAC membership is mainly concentrated in southern Ontario, the area of highest population density and relevant industry (publishers, wholesalers, booksellers, large libraries) representation. Better, innovative, and consistent communications and liaisons within the organization, and beyond, are means to this end. This is a major challenge in 1994-1995 for our incoming President, John Lumsden of CanEBSCO, and his officers.

**REPORT FROM THE 1994 MEDICAL
LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE /
Danny Jones, NASIG Liaison to MLA**

This year's annual meeting of the Medical Library Association was held May 13-18 in San Antonio, Texas. Almost 3000 delegates attended the conference.

Plenaries focused on public policy (June Osborn, M.D.: "AIDS, Education and Public Policy"), philosophy (Nina W. Matheson: "The Idea of the Library"), the future of the Internet (Ed Krol: "Will the Internet Go the Way of Health Care?"), and inspiration (Sarah Weddington: "First Put On Your Oxygen Mask").

Approximately 120 exhibitors participated in two and a half days of exhibits time. A media center in the exhibits gave delegates an opportunity to view audiovisual and interactive media products of interest in health science libraries. At the Internet Center in the hall of exhibits, delegates could check their e-mail and surf the net using Mosaic and gopher clients. Lunch time each day provided added educational opportunities in the form of "Lunch and Learn" sessions, where exhibitors and vendors could present a 45 minute "show and tell" about their latest developments, or plans for the future.

The following list of presentations gives a sense of the range of topics addressed at the meeting. Sixty-one poster sessions were presented over two days. Contributed papers at this meeting were absorbed into section programming. Some sections elected to invite speakers and panels rather than present papers.

Contributed papers included:

- "Collecting and organizing materials available on the Internet"
- "The librarian as partner in nursing education"
- "Historical images in medicine"

Poster sessions included:

- "Document delivery over the Internet"
- "Designing an Internet class for an academic health science center"

- "Cross-functional quality improvement team tracking illustrated on a process improvement storyboard"
- "Providing slide-making services in a health science library"
- "Ergonomics and the digital workplace"
- "A lost book hunt: classification, call numbers and the joys of shelving"
- "Outreach to rural and native American health providers"
- "Developing a biomedical gopher"

Panels and speakers included:

- "Trends in dental education"
- "Hospital information systems: impact and opportunities"
- "Alternative medicine literature"
- "Librarians as educators in a knowledge management environment"
- "Importing exotic species: benefits and drawbacks"
- "Cancer on the Internet"
- "Health care reform & medical libraries"
- "Removing/Replacing the reference librarian at the reference desk - pros and cons"

Thirty-one continuing education courses were scheduled before and after the meeting so registrants could learn in a more structured setting. A day-long symposium titled "Building the National Health Information Infrastructure: the Role of High Performance Computing and Communications" followed the conference.

After-hours social events included a welcoming reception combined with the opening of the hall of exhibits, an evening at the Institute of Texan Cultures sponsored by the Friends of the National Library of Medicine, and a smashing Night in Old San Antonio farewell party in Maverick Plaza (at which your trusty NASIG/MLA liaison enthusiastically performed the "chicken dance" and other traditional Texan dances).

The next annual meeting of the Medical Library Association will take place in Washington, D.C. and will be followed by the Seventh International Congress on Medical Librarianship.

**CALLING ALL NEW SERIAL LIBRARIANS
AND OTHERS INTERESTED IN SERIALS
WORK!**

The FIRST STEP Award, sponsored by the Serials Section of the Association of Library Collections & Technical Services (ALCTS) and underwritten by John Wiley & Co., is open for nominations for the coming year.

THE DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS JANUARY 15, 1995.

The award is a professional development grant. Its purpose is to provide librarians new to the serials field an opportunity to broaden their perspective and to encourage professional development in ALA conferences and participation in the Serials Section of ALCTS.

REQUIREMENTS: Any ALA member with five or fewer years experience in the serials field, who has not previously attended an ALA Annual Conference is eligible. A \$1,500 grant donated by Wiley is applicable toward round trip transportation, lodging, and registration fees.

NOMINATION PROCEDURE: Applicants should submit a current resume, cover letter and two written references to:

Eleanor Cook
Chair, First Step Award Committee
Appalachian State University
Serials Dept.
Belk Library
Boone, NC 27608
Phone: (704) 262-2786
Fax: (704) 262-3001
E-mail: cookei@appstate.edu

For more information contact Eleanor Cook or call ALCTS at (800) 545-2433 ext. 5034.

NOTE! All references and paperwork must be received by the deadline in order to be considered. Applicants are responsible for informing their references of this condition.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS /
Carol MacAdam

[Note: Please send announcements concerning meetings of interest to the NASIG membership to Carol MacAdam.]

February 3-9, 1995
American Library Association
Mid-Winter Conference
Philadelphia, PA

April 3-5, 1995
United Kingdom Serials Group
Annual Conference
University of Exeter, England

May 5-10, 1995
Medical Libraries Association
Annual Conference
Washington, D.C.

May 10-12, 1995
Seventh International Congress on Medical
Librarianship
Washington, D.C.

May 16-19, 1995
Association of Research Libraries
Spring Membership Meeting
Boston, MA

May 17-19, 1995
Society for Scholarly Publishing Annual Meeting
Cambridge, MA

May 18-25, 1995
Feather River Institute
Feather River, CA

May 24-26, 1995
American Society for Information Science
Mid-year Meeting
Minneapolis, MN

June 1-4, 1995
North American Serials Interest Group
Tenth Annual Conference
Duke University, Durham, NC

June 10-15, 1995
Special Libraries Association Annual Meeting
Montreal, Canada

June 14-18, 1995
Canadian Library Association
50th Annual Conference
Calgary, Alberta

June 22-29, 1995
American Library Association
Annual Conference
Chicago, IL

September 25-27, 1995
European Federation of Serials Groups
Third European Serials Conference
Polytechnic University of Valencia, Spain
(See full announcement in April 1994 Newsletter)

October 9-12, 1995
American Society for Information Science
Annual Meeting
Chicago, IL

October 17-20, 1995
Association of Research Libraries
Membership Meeting
Washington, D.C.

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Columns Editor: Carol MacAdam, Princeton University
Production Editor: Steve Savage,
University of Kentucky
Distribution Editor: Vikki Medaglia, Bates College
NASIG Executive Board Liaison: October Ivins,
Louisiana State University

The Newsletter is published in February, April, June, September, and December. Submission deadlines are 4 weeks prior to the publication date (January 1, March 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1). The submission date for the next issue is **January 1, 1995**.
NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Send all submissions and editorial comments to:

Maggie Horn, Principal Serials Catalog Librarian
University of California, Davis
Davis, CA 95616
Phone: (916) 752-2600 Fax: (916) 752-3148
Internet: mehorn@ucdavis.edu

Send all items for "Title Changes," the Calendar, and "New Members" to:

Carol MacAdam, Assistant Order Librarian
Princeton University Libraries
One Washington Road
Princeton, NJ 08540
Phone: (609) 258-5342 Fax: (609) 258-5571
Internet: cmacadam@pucc.princeton.edu

Send all inquiries concerning the NASIG organization and membership, and change of address information, to:

Susan Davis, NASIG Secretary,
Head, Periodicals Section, SUNY Buffalo
Lockwood Library Building
Buffalo, NY 14260
Phone: (716) 645-2784 Fax: (716) 645-5955
Internet: unlsdb@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu

Send claims for unreceived issues of the Newsletter to:

Vikki Medaglia, Serials Librarian
Bates College
Ladd Library
Lewiston, ME 04240
Phone: (207) 786-6269 Fax: (207) 786-6055
Internet: vmedagli@abacus.bates.edu

**NORTH AMERICAN SERIALS INTEREST GROUP
PROFESSIONAL LIAISONS
1994/1995 ROSTER**

**LIAISONS COORDINATOR FOR THE
NASIG BOARD**

Susan Davis
Head, Periodicals
State University of New York at Buffalo
Lockwood Library Bldg.
Buffalo, NY 14260-2200
Phone: (716) 645-2784
Fax: (716) 645-5955
E-mail: unisdb@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu

AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

1991-1995

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New York, NY 10158
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Janet Fisher
Journals Manager
The MIT Press
55 Hayward St.
Cambridge, MA 02142
(617) 253-2864
Fax: (617) 258-6779
E-mail: fisher@mitva.mit.edu

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Julia Gammon
Head, Acquisitions Dept.
University of Akron
Bierce Library
Akron, OH 44325-1708
Phone: (216) 972-6254
Fax: (216) 972-5383
E-mail: jgammon@uakron.edu

CANADIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Wayne Jones
Head, Serials Section
National Library of Canada
395 Wellington St.
Ottawa, ON K1A 0N4
CANADA
Phone: (819) 953-2718
Fax: (819) 953-0291
E-mail: waj@abs.nlc-bnc.ca

**CANADIAN SERIALS INDUSTRY
SYSTEMS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

1993-

Lucy Bottomley
Library Network Specialist
National Library of Canada
Information Technology Services/IAS
Ottawa, ON K1A 0N4
CANADA
Phone: (819) 994-6831
Fax: (819) 994-6835
E-mail: lucy.bottomley@nlc-bnc.ca

CONSER

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Kevin McShane
National Library of Medicine
8600 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20894

LIBRARY BINDING INSTITUTE

Sally Grauer
Library Binding Institute
7401 Metro Blvd. Suite 325
Edina, MN 55439
Phone: (612) 835-4707
Fax: (612) 835-4780
E-mail: 71035.3504@compuserv.com

MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

1994-

Daniel Jones
Assistant Library Director for
Collection Development
University of Texas Health Science
Center at San Antonio
7703 Floyd Curl Drive
San Antonio, TX 78284-7940
Phone: (210) 567-2400
Fax: (210) 567-2490
E-mail: jones@uthscsa.edu

**SERIALS INDUSTRY SYSTEMS
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Tina Feick
Senior Serials Specialist
Blackwell's Periodicals Division
US Sales Office
33 Gallo Court
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648
Phone: (609) 895-0090
Fax: (609) 895-7192
E-mail: feick@bnamf.blackwell.com

SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION

Audrey Greene
Regional Sales Manager
EBSCO Subscription Services
1163E Shrewsbury Ave.
Shrewsbury, NJ 07702
Phone: (908) 542-8600
Fax: (908) 544-9777

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Will Wakeling (Univ. of Birmingham)
c/o UKSG
114 Woodstock Rd.
Witney, OX8 6DY
UNITED KINGDOM
E-mail: wakeliw@lib.bham.ac.uk

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Dan Tonkery, NASIG Treasurer
c/o Readmore Academic Services
700 Blackhorse Pike Suite 204
Turnersville, NJ 08012-3200 USA